

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 124122

70

ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-13 ADP-00 AID-20 AGR-20 EB-11 SS-15

NSC-10 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 H-02 L-03 COME-00

OMB-01 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-12 IGA-02 CIEP-02 SAJ-01

/165 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ PAB: LLESSER: CF

6/25/73 EXT 21453

APPROVED BY NEA/ PAB: PDCONSTABLE

ASIA/ SA - H. REES

----- 047433

P R 252225 Z JUN 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY DACCA PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 124122

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: EAID, BD, US

SUBJ: WHEAT AVAILABILITIES FOR BANGLADESH

1. IN RECENT DAYS CONSIDERABLE INTEREST HAS BEEN
GENERATED IN WASHINGTON ABOUT FOOD SITUATION IN BANGLADESH
AND WHAT USG CAN DO TO ALLEVIATE IT. THIS EFFORT
CULMINATED IN LETTER TO PRESIDENT NIXON FROM SENATOR SAXBE
AND 39 OTHER SENATORS URGING THAT USG DISCUSS WITH SOVIET
UNION POSSIBILITY OF DIVERTING GRAIN PURCHASED BY SOVIETS
TO BANGLADESH IN ORDER TO AVERT FOOD CRISIS IN JULY AND
AUGUST. AT SAME TIME, BANGLADESH AMBASSADOR HOSSAIN ALI
REPORTED TO CONSTABLE, PAB, THAT ACCORDING TO BDG MINISTRY
OF FOOD JULY OFFTAKE FROM GOVT STOCKS PLANNED AT 300,000
TONS, TO BE MET FROM 200,000 TONS CARRYOVER STOCK AND ONLY
100,000 TONS IMPORTS. THUS STOCKS WOULD BE EXHAUSTED AT
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 124122

END OF JULY.

2. AGAINST THESE PESSIMISTIC FORECASTS, UNROB OFFICIALS SIR- ROBERT JACKSON AND LACOSTE INDICATE JULY OFFTAKE EXPECTED TO BE 200,000 TONS AND THAT 400,000 TONS SCHEDULED FOR ARRIVAL OVER NEXT COUPLE OF MONTHS, THUS INDICATING CRITICAL PERIOD OF SCARCITY SHOULD NOT OCCUR UNTIL TRADITIONALLY SCARCE PRE- AMAN HARVEST PERIOD IN OCTOBER- NOVEMBER.

3. MUCH OF THIS FLURRY OF INTEREST HAS BEEN LED BY DR. JONATHAN BERALL, WHO LOBBIED IN SIMILAR MANNER FOR BANGLADESH FOODGRAINS IN 1972. BERALL GIVES IMPRESSION OF BEING EXTREMELY WELL INFORMED ON BD FOODGRAIN SITUATION AND MAKES CONVINCING PRESENTATION. DEPT HAS REPLIED INFORMALLY TO INQUIRERS WHO HAVE HEARD BERALL'S CASE THAT WE AGREE AS TO SERIOUSNESS OF THE PROBLEM BUT THAT ACCORDING TO THE BEST INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO US WE BELIEVE BERALL IS MISTAKEN AS TO WHEN CRITICAL PERIOD WILL BEGIN. FURTHERMORE, USG ATTACHES HIGHEST PRIORITY TO RESPONDING TO HUMANITARIAN NEED IN BD, AS INDEED WE HAVE DONE SINCE INDEPENDENCE, AND WE INTEND TO CONTRIBUTE OUR SHARE TO THIS EFFORT. AT SAME TIME, UNITED STATES FINDS ITSELF FACING UNPRECEDENTED LIMITATIONS ON ITS OWN ABILITY TO RESPOND SINCE WHEAT IS IN GENUINELY SHORT SUPPLY WITH PRICES AT RECORD HIGHS, STOCKS SERIOUSLY DEPLETED, AND FOREIGN DEMAND CONTINUING VERY HIGH.

4. ONE ADDITIONAL QUESTION RAISED IN RESPONSE TO EFFORTS ON BEHALF BANGLADESH IS WHY BDG ISN'T LEADING APPEAL ITSELF. EXCEPT FOR AMB ALI INFORMATION MENTIONED PARA 1 THERE HAS BEEN NO SIGN OF ACTIVE BDG PARTICIPATION IN CAMPAIGN OF DR. BERALL FOR DIVERSION OF 500,000 TONS OF WHEAT IN NEXT SEVERAL WEEKS.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: IN CONTEXT OF SAXBE LETTER, TO WHICH DEPARTMENT MUST DRAFT REPLY, LATEST FIELD ASSESSMENT PRESENT STOCK POSITION, SCHEDULED ARRIVALS AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 124122

GENERAL PROSPECTS WOULD BE APPRECIATED. IN ADDITION, EMBASSY'S VIEWS ON PROGRAMS AND ATTITUDES OF BDG IN RESPONDING TO IMMINENT SHORTAGES NEEDED. ANY INDICATION OF INITIATIVES ALREADY TAKEN BY BDG TO RESPOND TO DANGER WOULD BE HELPFUL. ROGERS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNNNMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 JUN 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE124122
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: LLESSER: CF
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730629/aaaajprb.tel
Line Count: 118
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN NE
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26-Sep-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <04-Dec-2001 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> wfs 980226
Subject: WHEAT AVAILABILITIES FOR BANGLADESH
TAGS: EAID, BD, US
To: DACCA
MOSCOW
USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005